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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ALLEGED MEMBER OF PERF CONSPIRACY IN CUSTODY

PRESS RELEASE

Christina McKee, Temporary Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that CHARLES BURNEY, of Indianapolis, Indiana, was taken into custody yesterday and an initial hearing was held today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Kennard P. Foster in Indianapolis. BURNEY was charged in a Criminal Complaint on August 20, 2003 for allegedly conspiring to commit bank fraud and money laundering in connection with

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the theft of more than \$220,000 in funds from the Public Employees Retirement Fund of Indiana (PERF). The Complaint also alleges bank fraud in connection with the embezzlement of such PERF funds and money laundering of these funds through various bank transactions and the purchase of a Ford Expedition. The charges are the results of a joint investigation by the Indiana State Police, Internal Revenue Service, and U.S. Secret Service.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Steven D. DeBrot, who is prosecuting the case for the government, BURNEY will be temporarily detained without bond until a hearing on Wednesday, September 3, 2003. The government has requested the Court to order BURNEY to be held in custody for the remaining stages of the case.

In other pleadings filed today, the government moved to dismiss charges against Correy Harrison, the brother of Charles BURNEY. In its motion to dismiss, the government alleged that BURNEY used Correy Harrison's name and personal identifying information to open a bank account and deposit a fraudulently issued check from PERF made payable to Correy Harrison. The Court granted the motion to dismiss the charges against Correy Harrison arising from this transaction. Correy Harrison was not arrested and is no longer considered a fugitive.

The Criminal Complaint is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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